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TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1916.

RISK OF UNARMED SHIPS

A French merchantman coming into an American port armed for defense is unusual if not unprecedented. It has never been the practice of the French to arm their merchant ships for any purpose whatsoever. They can be doing this now only because of the hollowness of the whole Berlin position as to armed merchantmen.

It makes no difference to the submarine whether a merchant ship is armed or unarmed; they torpedo it just the same, and they torpedo it without warning just the same. It makes no difference, in most cases, whether the ship belongs to an enemy or to a neutral nation; they torpedo it just the same, and they torpedo it without warning just the same.

Clearly enough the captains of merchant vessels have come to realize that on every voyage they run the risk of having to fight for their lives anyhow. As long as they must be shelled and torpedoed in any event, it is not strange that they want to give as good an account of themselves as brave and honorable men can when they are set upon by assassins.

REPORTS AGAINST BRANDEIS

The report of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee on the nomination of Brandeis to the Supreme Court is very significant. That subcommittee undoubtedly was regarded by the political machine which is trying to force Brandeis into the Supreme Court as a committee almost as good as "packed." Senator Cummins and Senator Works are liberals, if not radicals. Those who have been behind Brandeis have been clamoring that the only opposition to him was by the conservatives and reactionaries; and they must have been supremely confident that two such liberals as Cummins and Works, concurring with the Democratic members, would give Brandeis more than the benefit of the doubt.

As a matter of fact, there is just as strong opposition to Brandeis by liberals throughout the country as by conservatives and reactionaries. Nobody who understood the merits of the case could honestly have questioned that fact. But if anybody did question it, his doubts must now be dissolved by the strong and convincing minority reports of Cummins and Works against the confirmation of Brandeis. These liberals—these liberals from the West—point out, describe, and denounce the disqualifications of Brandeis on exactly the lines of every other critic of the nomination that has protested against putting into the Supreme Court of the United States a lawyer who utterly lacks the confidence of men of all professions and all parties and all interests.

It is, as one of the protesting members of the subcommittee declares, inevitable that a justice mistrusted by everybody must do the greatest injury to the reputation of the highest tribunal in the land. Indeed, it must be discredited before the whole American public.

HARRY GOLDMAN'S STORY

All that the sociologists said about the wage scales paid to Federal employees carried weight. To a few, the tables of living costs prepared by the experts may have meant something; but it remained for a \$60-a-month messenger to breathe the human interest into the Nolan wage bill hearings yesterday.

To Harry Goldman every Government clerk should extend his thanks. This employe spoke volumes more from his own experience than all the investigators could tell in weeks. There was no whining nor whimpering, no playing to the galleries, no plea for sympathy, just a straightforward account of what had happened to one man with a family who tried living on \$60 a month in Washington. For this self-revelation, for this sacrifice of the privacy of home affairs, Mr. Goldman deserves the gratitude of hundreds of other Government clerks who suffer the same hardships but had not the courage to tell about them.

His story carries weight because he was one of those who tried to better his condition, and studied and planned to do it. Not the least of the city of his tale was that portion which told of the profitless hours of self-improvement trying to get a promotion from a close-fisted Government.

Goldman's tale, just as he told it, is almost a classic. He made his auditors feel the desperation of that self-respect which will not ask for charity, which often is more pitiable

than the deprivations of actual want. He told of the insults of landlords, of living in a section where many would not walk abroad at night, of doctors' bills, of walking miles to buy provisions, all the sordid details that a Zola could weave into a depressing bit of fiction; and then, crowning touch of all, the disappointment and disillusionment of the girl who had to be informed that there was no Santa Claus, and that her father and mother could not afford a tricycle.

After all, the disillusionment of the Government clerk who regards Uncle Sam as a kindly benefactor until he enters "Uncle's" employ, is more tragic than the actual deprivations entailed by such employment. Perhaps the Santa Claus story is symbolic of the experience of more Government clerks than would admit it.

THE WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

News from Annapolis of the passage by the Maryland legislature of the bill introduced by Delegate Paul Y. Waters of Montgomery county creating the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission will be received with satisfaction both in those parts of Maryland affected and in the District of Columbia.

The measure is of vital importance to both jurisdictions.

The commission, which is to be a joint body representing both counties, will study water-supply and sewerage conditions in those parts of Montgomery and Prince George counties adjacent to Washington and report specifically the legislation needed by the next session of the Maryland legislature in order to secure pure water and adequate sewerage facilities.

In the meantime, the commission is given authority to enter into reciprocal sewerage arrangements with the District of Columbia.

Need for the legislation has been apparent for some time.

To Mr. Waters goes the credit for making the fight for the bill in the crowded closing hours of the session.

Co-operation between Maryland and the District of Columbia in preventing contamination of streams common to both is essential.

Its necessity has been pointed out by The Times editorially on several occasions.

The Times was opposed to the original Blandford sanitary measure because it believed that the legislation was premature and that it vested in the proposed commission powers which, in view of existing conditions, were not only unnecessary but unwarranted.

The publicity given to the measure by The Times proved that many residents of both counties and municipal authorities, who until then were unaware of the introduction of the bill, shared this view. The Blandford measure was sensibly withdrawn and the Waters substitute measure adopted.

The new commission will doubtless find invaluable in its work the able and comprehensive report upon the collection and disposal of the sewage of those sections of Maryland adjacent to the District of Columbia made in 1914 to the sewerage commission of Montgomery and Prince George counties by Robert B. Morse, chief engineer of the Maryland department of health.

This report, which is a most interesting document, contains sixty printed pages together with a number of diagrams and plates, and is excellent so far as it goes.

Engineer Morse treated the sewerage problem in the territory covered by the Waters bill from the standpoint of topography and population, and recommended the construction of main drainage systems costing \$538,500, with an annual maintenance charge of \$39,159.

He divided the territory into four natural drainage areas—Rock Creek, Anacostia river, Little Falls brook, and Oxon run—covering 102 square miles, termed the Washington suburban sanitary district.

The present population of this area is about 30,000 and Engineer Morse estimated that by 1950 it would be 150,000; population in this area is growing much faster than in the District of Columbia, and has more than doubled since 1900.

Engineer Morse recommended immediate action looking to water and sewer systems for the towns of Silver Spring, Mt. Rainier, Brentwood, Bladensburg, Riverdale, College Park, Berwyn, and Branchville.

Engineer Morse's report was merely preliminary, and touched only incidentally upon the water situation, concerning which he recommended the comprehensive study which the new commission will doubtless make.

The commission may well heed the following from the report:

There is no part of Maryland in such crying need of proper public water supplies as are many portions of the sanitary district, and if they cannot be installed by the counties or by joint action as if splendid opportunities were offered for the investment of private capital. Early steps should be taken to devise a basis for agreement with the District of Columbia and to have action taken empowering the District authorities to enter into agreements for disposing of Maryland sewage and for reimbursing the sewage from certain District of Columbia areas into Maryland sewers.

Now that Maryland has its commission, its representatives in Con-

gress might well give attention to expediting the passage of the pending bill H. R. 7582, which, if enacted, would allow the District Commissioners to enter into such reciprocal sewerage arrangements with Maryland.

MAKING OVER THE SCHOOLS

Dr. Abraham Flexner, secretary of the General Education Board, demands a serious practical experiment to determine whether present educational methods are correct. He says he has no particular theory to advance, looking to revolution in school methods; but he does want a real trial of various plans that have been proposed for modernizing education and making it more practical.

A school without formal teaching of grammar, with the supposedly higher mathematics eliminated, with Latin and Greek omitted—this would be merely the beginning of this experiment. Dr. Flexner makes the point that the higher mathematics instead of disciplining the student mind are quite too often inspiration to the development of slipshod, insincere methods of study which give results exactly opposite to real discipline. The same, he believes, is true of the dead languages, though it is hard to feel confident that omission of Latin would be possible if anything like real culture were the object in view. The service of Latin and Greek may not be very apparent in the immediate development of the student's mind; but they leave a residuum of knowledge about the elements of the composite English tongue that certainly is of real, practical value to people who use it.

Indeed, it would seem that more study of Saxon fundamentals could well be added in the curriculum, rather than that other mother-languages should be dropped out. Better teaching of literature, and the teaching of real appreciation for the best literature, is undoubtedly needed. Still more, perhaps, is more effective work in history. It may be doubted if any great nation teaches its history to its own children so badly as the United States does. Children get their heads filled with things about American history that simply are not true; and only the most fortunate among them—those with initiative, originality, and imagination enough to make them students independently—ever get these misapprehensions corrected. It would seem that the manifestations of misguided public opinion on many subjects of historic and international subjects, in the last two years, might make this point obvious without much argument.

The Flexner experiment deserves to be staged in a big, broad way. Certainly a man from Mars, knowing nothing whatever about education in this world, would not, after looking over our social scheme, devise an educational scheme that would parallel the one we now employ. He would inquire what are the great, dominant, persisting interests of the people; what they do and think about; and he would try to make education really fit them for this doing and thinking. The present educational process does not accomplish satisfactory results, measured by such a standard.

One of the most serious drawbacks to this alter ego alibi, seems to be that no one will step in and help you prove it.

Root for Roosevelt! No, you read it wrong. Root is a noun, proper.

Another mystery explained: Louisville man says they flash that "One Minute to Change Reels" sign on the screen to warn loving couples to unclasp hands.

Prohibition gets a sad blow. Parnackers find good use for breweries' refuse hops.

Chief worry right now is whether this old pair will last until low shoe season really arrives.

The United States used to give Villa a lot of rope, but he had to go and look for more, and the chances are that he's going to get it.

Ego in a child, says a Richmond preacher, is an incurable disease. Razor strop massage, parson, has been known to decrease visible symptoms of the affliction.

A Chinese vase has been unearthed that is worth more than \$50,000. To whom?

The truth of several Presidential timber claims seems destined never to be refuted by popular vote.

With a molasses shortage predicted and sulphur away up, the folks back home will have to dig a lot of sarsaparilla root this spring.

How big does a regular army have to be, to be a regular army?

Locating Villa is easy enough. The chief trouble lies in reaching the location before it changes.

Night machine gun practice by U. S. troops may mean the disappearance of a star in the Mexican firmament.

Yuan got out from under, but he may yet get further.

New after's Play at the Belasco

Crowds at National Greet 'Follies'

FOUNDED ON BOOK BY FOX

Tells History of Three Waifs, a Boy, a Girl, and a Dog. Cast Is Capable.

"The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come" Has Premiere At Local House.

THE breath of the Cumberland mountains stole across the footlights at the Belasco Theater last night and enveloped the audience in the folds of a bit of the history of three waifs, a boy, a girl, and a dog, as told in the course of a new play by Eugene Walter, "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come."

Founded on the book of the same name by John Fox, Jr., this play comes most favorably in many ways with its predecessor, "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," by the same author and dramatist.

The story of the boy Chad, his dog Jack, and the dramatization of their adventures with the Turners and the Dillons, is intensely interesting. Jack Davis has the role of the boy hero does excellent work, backed by a cast of twenty-five, well chosen and well trained.

The dramatic appeal, however, lies as strongly in the story of the Lonesome Pine, nor is there as much of the romance which played so large a part in the overwhelming success of the latter production.

Chad's Enemy, Cherry. The play opens at the point where Chad is about to be bound over to Nathan Cherry, an old rascal who makes a business of hoodwinking the simple people of the Cumberland out of their lands and holdings. The little boy is grief-stricken over the death of his mother, and he is first seen in front of his deserted cabin with his dog Jack.

Not only is he quite alone in the world, but worse still, Nathan Cherry has sworn to kill his dog. Red Fox, an old woodsman, who has a lifelong grudge against this same Nathan Cherry, Red Fox is the deus ex machina of the play. He is first seen at the moment in each act, to guide the affairs of the little boy to a happy end.

The play is an excellent interpretation by Wallace Owen, and is, with the presentation of Jack Davis, as Chad, one of the most substantial guarantees for the future success of the offering.

Red Fox comforts Chad, promises to go to the settlement and try to find out what has happened to the mountain country that Melissa, an adopted child of the Turners, hear all that he says. She steps from behind the bushes and makes friends with Chad and his dog. From that moment the affairs of the boy are wound up with those of the Turners, and the stranger whom Red Fox brings on, the other, the piece moves to a happy conclusion.

The Flexner experiment deserves to be staged in a big, broad way. Certainly a man from Mars, knowing nothing whatever about education in this world, would not, after looking over our social scheme, devise an educational scheme that would parallel the one we now employ.

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MISS MADE GILBERT RETURNS TO POLIS

"Clothes" Produced Up to Usual Standard at Avenue Theater.

"Clothes," Channing Pollock's cynical comedy of modern life was presented by the Poli Players last evening in a manner measuring up well to the high standard set this season. The occasion was an unofficial celebration of Miss Made Gilbert's "homecoming" as leading lady, after a year with the motion picture industry. The play concerns the fortunes of one Olivia Sherwood, a young woman who had always been considered a heiress until her father's death disclosed a few shares of mining stock as her only source of income. The family lawyer, meanwhile, plotting to get out of his wife's hands the girl instead, pays this supposed income out of his own pocket when the stocks are found to be valueless.

Plans to Sell Stock. Even this income does not satisfy the girl, who still believes her investment a paying one, and she plans to sell some of her stock and buy a good thing. This will prove the deciding factor in hastening the proposal of Richard Burbank, a well-to-do business man.

The remainder of the story is devoted to a proof of the shallowness of so-called "social position," in the case of the ruined Wallings as well as that of Olivia herself.

It is doubtful that even the original heroine Grace George, realized the possibilities of the play. The story is more than Miss Gilbert's. As the disillusioned girl who still claims that plenty of money is the essential to happiness and the more she has the more she is ready to put aside wealth for love, her acting was finely sincere and unaffected.

The role of the businesslike Burbank, determined in competition with such familiar disturbers as Langline bells and a determined player piano, was easily assumed by A. H. Van Buren.

Ben Tazgart was convincingly villainous as the plotting lawyer, Howard Lang, supplied the pathos of the story as the ruined publisher, and to Miss Blanche Friederick and Ralph Remley were assigned broad comedy types contrasting well with the satiric theme of the play.

Miss Cecil Kohlhaas, Miss Elizabeth Berger, Miss Margaret Starr, and Miss Betty Farrington were four bored accessories.

Four important members of the cast were the solemn puppets that attended the "dog luncheon" in the second act—two of the best of the evening, and a wee white canine that may be an Alredale some day.

The costumes were attractive and the scenery painted by Charles Squares, provided three unusually elaborate settings entirely in keeping with the play.

LOEW'S COLUMBIA.

The methods of the Mexican banditry to obtain money from Americans as well as their summary system of punishment for those they disliked is one of the timely features that add interest to "The Heart of Paula," in which Lenore Ulrich is presented at Loew's Columbia for the first part of this week.

George Broadhurst wrote the photoplay for Miss Ulrich, and provided for the play the best of the Mexican scene. The star objected to the ending, and another was provided also; both finales being made, and the production company putting the question to patrons in each city as to which should be used. The happy ending is used here, and it is easy to understand why Miss Ulrich desired it, as it seems to be the logical and proper way to end the piece.

There is the slightest chance therefore the average theater audience likes to see the heroine and the hero united in the last act.

The story is that of an American mining engineer who wins the love of a Mexican girl, who is also loved by the Mexican chieftain. That, of course, explains why the American gets into endless trouble and is finally placed against a wall to be shot.

The play is the best vehicle Miss Ulrich has had to display her special ability as a photoplay star. Forrest Stanley, Velma Leifer, Jack Livingston, Howard Davies, and Herbert Standing appear in the supporting cast. The program also includes a Burton Holmes travelogue, dealing with San Francisco and the Panama Pacific Exposition and a Metro comedy presenting Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Drew.

Thursday Victor Moore and Anita King will appear in "The Race," a comedy in which the winner of the Lasky production, which will finish the week at the Columbia.

STRAND.

A lesson in preparedness is the under-motive of the comedy-drama, "The Flying Torpedo," in which John Emerson, Beagle Love and Spottiswood Alken are presented by the Triangle company as the foreweek feature at the Strand this week.

The story is that of the inventor of a deadly war implement who has difficulties in getting his invention completed because of the machinations of a group of international spies.

The big feature of the play, from the point of view of the audience, is the character of Beagle Love, as a photoplayer. This young woman, who is new in photoplay work, appears in the part of a Swedish servant and falls little short of being the star of the piece by her clean, wholesome and thoroughly legitimate, though highly eccentric, comical method. Mr. Emerson appears in a comedy role, as the inventor.

The secondary feature is a Keystone comedy, "The Village Blacksmith." Both plays will be shown again today. Tomorrow and Thursday the features will be Norma Talmadge, Tully Marshall and Seena Owen in "Martha's Vindication," and Joe Jackson in "Gypsy Joe," both Triangle productions.

Friday and Saturday Mabel Taliaferro will be presented in the Metro production of "Her Great Price," with a "Ham and Bud" comedy, "From Alter to Halter," as the secondary feature.

Rowboat Is Hearse.

ALBANY, April 4.—A rowboat was used as a hearse at the funeral of Mrs. Sarah Staats today because the sturgeon hooded the river roads from her home on Staats Island.

Brisk Nonsense, Entertaining Music, Superb Settings, and a Ziegfeld Chorus.

TUNEFUL SONGS GALORE

Fun-Provokers Are Assisted By Specialists in Refreshing Entertainment.

The "Follies"—Ziegfeld's, of course—overflowing with brisk nonsense, music and dances, from acrobatic to classic, all gorgeously mounted before some of Joseph Urban's magnificently colorful decorations, opened at the New National Theater last night.

Two acts of nineteen scenes, an augmented orchestra with a trap drummer and none of the "old" Ziegfeld, and quantities of pulchritude, are utilized by Mr. Ziegfeld in the current "Follies," and the mixture passed with such abandon that none in the immense audience had the slightest opportunity to do anything but rejoice.

Opening with the "under the sea" scene, in which a submarine and mermaids, and a Ziegfeld chorus, are utilized by Mr. Ziegfeld in the current "Follies," and the mixture passed with such abandon that none in the immense audience had the slightest opportunity to do anything but rejoice.

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INDOOR SPORTS

Alexandria County Citizens Support Carlin Measure at Mass Meeting.

Resolutions endorsing the Carlin bill in the House for a new Aqueduct bridge at or near the present site of that structure, which connects Georgetown and Alexandria counties, were passed at a mass meeting of citizens of the county at the courthouse last night.

The meeting was held by the Alexandria County Civic Federation to test public sentiment in the county as to the proper location for the bridge. The Federation had previously gone on record unanimously in favor of an H street site for the Washington end of the bridge. A resolution favoring this site, however, was defeated by a vote of 10 to 35 at the mass meeting last night. The Georgetown site was endorsed by an acclamation vote.

County Clerk George H. Rucker, Commonwealth's Attorney Frank Ball, Charles M. Taylor, former county attorney, and William C. Cloth, spoke in favor of the Georgetown site. Among those who spoke for the direct route favored by the civic federation were Thomas Jones, of Cherrydale, Walter E. Hays, of Barracott, Tench T. Marry, of Park Lane; R. C. L. Moore, of Fort Myer Heights, and Col. John G. Pepper,